MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.

Members present: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon G. Corvin, Town Attorney Christopher R. Menerick, Marie B. Bishop, Mary Thomas, Patrol Sergeant Lonnie Anders

RE: CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM, PLEDGE

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order and established that a quorum of Council members was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Mayor King.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Taylor presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 24, 2019, and the request of Wythe County Community Hospital to conduct a Fight Like a Preemie Color Run/Walk on Saturday, September 28, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented or to somehow be amended. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilwoman Pattison to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 24, 2019, and the request of Wythe County Community Hospital to conduct a Fight Like a Preemie Color Run/Walk on Saturday, September 28, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., as presented. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

RE: CITIZENS’ PERIOD

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Citizens’ Period. She stated that the sign in sheet indicated that there are no citizens listed who wished to address the Council during Citizens’ Period, therefore, she would proceed with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The next Council Work Session will be held Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at 7:00 a.m., in the Council Conference Room.

2. The New River Regional Water Authority will meet on Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers.

3. Town Manager Sutherland advised that the Council has been presented a resolution at this meeting which was not on the original agenda because Town staff learned earlier in the day that the Council would need to adopt a resolution supporting the Town applying for Virginia Tobacco Commission Southwest Economic Development Funds for the Millwald Theatre Redevelopment Project and to authorize the signature and submittal of the appropriate documents. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was a motion to adopt the resolution. Councilman Bloomfield stated that he would like to suggest a modification to the resolution in regard to the project cost and the amount the Town is applying for in Tobacco Commission Funds. He suggested that the resolution be modified to reflect a project cost of $4.3 million. A motion was made by Councilman Hand and seconded by Councilwoman Pattison to adopt a resolution, as amended, supporting the Town applying for $200,000 in Virginia Tobacco Commission Southwest Economic Development Funds for the Millwald Theatre Redevelopment Project and to authorize the Town Manager to sign and submit the appropriate documents. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to adopt the resolution, as amended. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilwoman Pattison, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that in 2015, the United States Congress adopted a new transportation alternative and set aside funding known as the “Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act,” or also known as FAST. She
explained that this legislation continues the former Transportation Enhancement Program’s long history that began in 1991. Councilwoman Pattison remarked that administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), these projects mainly focus on nonmotorized transportation opportunities and enhancements to the transportation experience. She commented that throughout the State, popular projects have included bicycle and pedestrian trails, preservation of historic transportation structures, including train depots and lighthouses, as well as roadway pull offs at overlooks. Councilwoman Pattison expressed that to participate, a preapplication was required to be submitted by July 1, 2019. She stated that the Town’s application was submitted to VDOT for a Transportation Alternatives Grant that will request funding for the Heritage Walk Museum Connector. Councilwoman Pattison noted that the project is anticipated to include sidewalk improvements from Tazewell Street along Spiller Street and the walkways in Withers Park that will tie into the existing walking track, and, ultimately, connect to the Heritage Walk at Second Street. She commented that the final application is not due until fall 2019 and funding will be for the State fiscal year 2021–2022. Councilwoman Pattison remarked that the purpose of this preapplication was merely to give the Commonwealth notice that the Town intends to file a full application for future funding. She advised that nothing is required of the Council at this time, but the Committee did want everyone to be aware that the Town is continuing with its efforts to enhance the walking facilities in town.

Councilwoman Pattison, also, reported that as a part of the improvements to the Downtown Project, the Town began, over one year ago, to look at a new signage system that would direct travelers as they visit the community. She explained that this project has been known as the Wayfinding Program. Councilwoman Pattison remarked that after the development of the plans, the contract was awarded late last year. She commented that the successful bidder on the project was Rite Lite Signs of Concord, North Carolina, and they have been working very diligently to get these signs erected at various locations throughout town, and they are now nearing completion. Councilwoman Pattison expressed that the Council had anticipated that the project would be complete prior to the new fiscal year, but there will be some minor construction activity in the new budget year. She stated that the project has gone very well, and the only changes to the original design is that the Budget and Finance Committee is seeking to add two signs on Route 21 South that would direct travelers to the Crystal Springs recreation area. Councilwoman Pattison noted that the Town has received many positive comments about the new Wayfinding signage and agree that they are very attractive. She explained that the Town’s Public Works Department has a schedule for the removal of old signs that are no longer needed since the new Wayfinding signs have been installed. Councilwoman Pattison commented that the Council anticipates that all of the old remaining signs should be removed within the next month or so. She advised that nothing is required of the Council at this time, but the Committee did want everyone to be aware that the Wayfinding Program was coming to an end. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Bloomfield, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated that later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that amends the Town’s Noise Ordinance. He explained that the Council discovered that the Town’s regulations pertaining to the emptying of dumpsters did not have time constraints in the downtown area. Councilman Bloomfield commented that there are many residential areas around the downtown zone that are impacted by the sound of these dumpsters early in the morning. He remarked that the ordinance, as drafted, will merely include the downtown area under the same noise regulations as the rest of the town. Councilman Bloomfield advised that when this ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be adopted on first and final reading. He stated that the Public Works Committee would also ask that after the adoption of the ordinance that the companies involved locally with emptying dumpsters be notified of these new regulations.

Councilman Bloomfield, also, reported that for a number of years, the Town has permitted hunting to occur on the Town owned land on Sand Mountain. He explained that because of the volume of requests that is received, it was determined that the number of permits to hunt on this land would be restricted to 50. Councilman Bloomfield remarked that each year, the Town gives public notice of the opportunity for hunters to make application to hunt on this land, and the 50 successful candidates are chosen by lottery. He expressed that people who receive a permit to hunt on Town owned land must be Wythe County residents and comply with all Department of Game and Inland Fisheries’ rules and regulations. Councilman Bloomfield noted that the Public Works Committee believes that the regulations that the Town has in place have been effective and would suggest that the same regulations be imposed on the hunters for the upcoming season. He advised that it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the Town continues the hunting program on Sand Mountain under the regulations that were in place last year and that public notification be given of the opportunity to make application for
such a permit. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Councilman Hand for the Council to approve to continue the hunting program on Sand Mountain under the regulations that were in place last year and to give public notification of the opportunity to apply for a hunting permit. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion regarding the hunting program. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

RE: APPOINTMENTS – WYTHEVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the appointment/reappointment of members to the Wytheville Redevelopment and Housing Authority to fill the expiring terms of Barbara W. Lambert and James H. Rosenbaum (terms expire September 8, 2019). A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Bloomfield to appoint Mr. Thomas F. Hundley and reappoint Mrs. Barbara W. Lambert to the Wytheville Redevelopment and Housing Authority (terms expire September 8, 2023). Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to appoint Mr. Hundley and reappoint Mrs. Lambert to the Wytheville Redevelopment and Housing Authority. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1366

Mayor Taylor presented Ordinance No. 1366, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 9, Offenses - Miscellaneous, Article V. Noise, Section 9-113. Same – Specific Prohibitions, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first reading. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Councilman Hand to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1366, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 9, Offenses - Miscellaneous, Article V. Noise, Section 9-113. Same – Specific Prohibitions, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to adopt the ordinance on first and final reading. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

FOR: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison
AGAINST: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1366 was adopted on first and final reading.

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – BUFFER YARD REGULATIONS

Mayor Taylor advised the next agenda item is a recommendation from the Wytheville Planning Commission to consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI – General Provisions, Section 16-6.5 Buffer Yard Specifications, regarding the types and numbers of trees/shrubs to be planted in a buffer yard. She advised that it would be necessary to set a public hearing to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance, which could be scheduled for the Town Council meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019. It was the consensus of the Town Council to set a public hearing for the Monday, August 12, 2019, Town Council meeting, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, to consider the recommendation from the Wytheville Planning Commission to consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI – General Provisions, Section 16-6.5 Buffer Yard Specifications, regarding the types and numbers of trees/shrubs to be planted in a buffer yard.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:12 p.m.).

Beth A. Taylor, Mayor

Sharon G. Corvin, CMC, Town Clerk
1. In 2015, the United States Congress adopted a new transportation alternative and set aside funding known as the “Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act,” or also known as FAST. This legislation continues the former Transportation Enhancement Program’s long history that began in 1991. Administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), these projects mainly focus on nonmotorized transportation opportunities and enhancements to the transportation experience. Throughout the State, popular projects have included bicycle and pedestrian trails, preservation of historic transportation structures, including train depots and lighthouses, as well as roadway pull offs at overlooks. To participate a preapplication was required to be submitted by July 1, 2019. The Town’s application was submitted to VDOT for a Transportation Alternatives Grant that will request funding for the Heritage Walk Museum Connector. The project is anticipated to include sidewalk improvements from Tazewell Street along Spiller Street and the walkways in Withers Park that will tie into the existing walking track, and, ultimately, connect to the Heritage Walk at Second Street. The final application is not due until fall 2019 and funding will be for the State fiscal year 2021–2022. The purpose of this preapplication was merely to give the Commonwealth notice that we intend to file a full application for future funding.
Nothing is required of the Council at this time, but we did want everyone to be aware that we were continuing with our efforts to enhance our walking facilities in town.

2. As a part of the improvements to the Downtown Project, the Town began, over one year ago, to look at a new signage system that would direct travelers as they visit our community. This project has been known as the Wayfinding Program. After the development of the plans, the contract was awarded late last year. The successful bidder on the project was Rite Lite Signs of Concord, North Carolina, and they have been working very diligently to get these signs erected at various locations throughout town, and they are now nearing completion. We had anticipated that the project would be complete prior to the new fiscal year, but there will be some minor construction activity in the new budget year. The project has gone very well, and the only changes to the original design is that we are seeking to add two signs on Route 21 South that would direct travelers to the Crystal Springs recreation area. We have received many positive comments about the new Wayfinding signage and agree that they are very attractive. Our Public Works Department has a schedule for the removal of old signs that are no longer needed since the new Wayfinding signs have been installed. We anticipate that all of the old remaining signs should be removed within the next month or so. Nothing is required of the Council at this time, but we did want everyone to be aware that the Wayfinding Program was coming to an end.
1. Later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that amends the Town's Noise Ordinance. We discovered that our regulations pertaining to the emptying of dumpsters did not have time constraints in the downtown area. There are many residential areas around the downtown zone that are impacted by the sound of these dumpsters early in the morning. The ordinance, as drafted, will merely include the downtown area under the same noise regulations as the rest of the town. When this ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be adopted on first and final reading. We would also ask that after the adoption of the ordinance that the companies involved locally with emptying dumpsters be notified of these new regulations.

2. For a number of years, the Town has permitted hunting to occur on the Town owned land on Sand Mountain. Because of the volume of requests that is received, it was determined that the number of permits to hunt on this land would be restricted to 50. Each year, we give public notice of the opportunity for hunters to make application to hunt on this land, and the 50 successful candidates are chosen by lottery. People who receive a permit to hunt on Town owned land must be Wythe County residents and comply with all Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' rules and regulations. We believe that the regulations that we have in place have been effective and would suggest that the same regulations be imposed on the hunters for the upcoming
season. It would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that we continue the hunting program on Sand Mountain under the regulations that were in place last year and that public notification be given of the opportunity to make application for such a permit.

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Joseph E. Hand, Jr.

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Mark J. Bloomfield